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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/522,882	02/02/2005	Alfred Mueller	004501-797	5246
21839	7590	06/11/2007		
BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC POST OFFICE BOX 1404 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404			EXAMINER TALBOT, MICHAEL	
			ART UNIT 3722	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/11/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/522,882

Applicant(s)

MUELLER ET AL.

Examiner

Michael W. Talbot

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/2/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of undue length. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Refer to page 4, line 17, a "space" should be inserted within phrase "abovedescribed" so as to read --above described--.

Refer to page 7, line 27, the first occurrence of the letter "v" within the word "convcavely" should be deleted so as to read --concavely--.

Refer to page 14, line 30, the figure reference for "fig. 5" should be changed so as to read --fig. 2--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Refer to claim 1, line 2, the word "method" should be deleted from the phrase "in which method the body" so as to read --in which the body--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 2 and 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 2 and 6-10, the phrase "preferably" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitation(s) following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-5 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Morawski et al. '187. Morawski et al. '187 shows in Figures 1-4 a method of clamping a rotationally symmetrical body (W) with its first side (tapered side as viewed in Fig. 1) pulled by means of a tensile force (22,36,38) which acts in extension of the rotation axis of the body on the first side of the body against a supporting element (60,62) having a centering effect, wherein the supporting element is acted upon with a spring force (84,86) which is opposed to the tensile force, wherein the spring force is slightly smaller than the tensile force (must be in order for chuck to operate) and is proportioned in such a way that when the body strikes the supporting element, the supporting element first of all yields in the axial direction. Morawski et al. '187 shows the tensile force being transmitted to the body by means of a tie rod (22) which is

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connected to the body by means of a quick-action coupling (via collet 38). Morawski et al. '187 shows the tie rod guided with radial clearance axially and concentrically (must be in order for chuck to operate) to the rotation axis of the rotationally symmetrical body. Morawski et al. '187 shows the body with a centering region (at tapered end), which is arranged at an axial distance from the first side of the body and is oriented in the same direction as the first side of the body, is pulled against a centering device (19,50). Morawski et al. '187 shows the spring force, tensile force and configuration of supporting element are selected in accordance with the body to be clamped. Morawski et al. '187 shows the supporting element provided with supporting surfaces (98,100) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and which are inclined toward the rotation axis or are contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular supporting ring. Morawski et al. '187 shows a centering device (19,50) provided at a an axial distance form the supporting element, wherein the centering device is provided with centering surfaces (48) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and are inclined toward the rotation axis. Morawski et al. '187 shows the centering surfaces distributed uniformly over the circumference and extend in a finger like manner (32) toward the rotation axis from a defined outer circumference up to a defined inner circumference or contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular centering surface.

8. Claims 1-3,5 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Garrison et al. '657. Garrison et al. '657 shows in Figures 1-3 a method of clamping a rotationally symmetrical body (W) with its first side (top as viewed in Fig. 1) pulled by means of a tensile force (5,32,38) which acts in extension of the rotation axis of the body on the first side of the body against a supporting element (20,54) having a centering effect, wherein the supporting element is acted upon with a spring force (39,50) which is opposed to the tensile force, wherein the spring force is slightly smaller than the tensile force (must be in order for chuck to operate)

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and is proportioned in such a way that when the body strikes the supporting element, the supporting element first of all yields in the axial direction. Garrison et al. '657 shows the tensile force being transmitted to the body by means of a tie rod (5) which is connected to the body by means of a quick-action coupling (32,38). Garrison et al. '657 shows the tie rod guided with radial clearance axially and concentrically (must be in order for chuck to operate) to the rotation axis of the rotationally symmetrical body. Garrison et al. '657 shows the spring force, tensile force and configuration of supporting element are selected in accordance with the body to be clamped. Garrison et al. '657 shows the supporting element provided with supporting surfaces (22 and tips of 54) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and which are inclined toward the rotation axis or are contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular supporting ring. Garrison et al. '657 shows a centering device (33) provided at a an axial distance from the supporting element, wherein the centering device is provided with centering surfaces (36) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and are inclined toward the rotation axis. Garrison et al. '657 shows the centering surfaces distributed uniformly over the circumference and extend in a finger like manner (32) toward the rotation axis from a defined outer circumference up to a defined inner circumference or contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular centering surface.

9. Claims 1-3,5 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kempton et al. '379. Kempton et al. '379 shows in Figures 1-4 a method of clamping a rotationally symmetrical body (A,21) with its first side (left side of A,21 as viewed in Fig. 1) pulled by means of a tensile force (19,20) which acts in extension of the rotation axis of the body on the first side of the body against a supporting element (14) having a centering effect, wherein the supporting element is acted upon with a spring force (14a) which is opposed to the

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tensile force, wherein the spring force is slightly smaller than the tensile force (must be in order for chuck to operate) and is proportioned in such a way that when the body strikes the supporting element, the supporting element first of all yields in the axial direction. Kempton et al. '379 shows the tensile force being transmitted to the body by means of a tie rod (20) which is connected to the body by means of a quick-action coupling (19). Kempton et al. '379 shows the tie rod guided with radial clearance axially and concentrically (must be in order for chuck to operate) to the rotation axis of the rotationally symmetrical body. Kempton et al. '379 shows the spring force, tensile force and configuration of supporting element are selected in accordance with the body to be clamped. Kempton et al. '379 shows the supporting element provided with supporting surfaces (at 32) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and which are inclined toward the rotation axis or are contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular supporting ring.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morawski et al. '187 in view of Clavell '039. Morawski et al. '187 lacks the body being a rotor with integrally formed moving blades capable of receiving the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. Clavell '039 shows in Figures 1 and 2 a rotor (1) with integrally formed moving blades (2) capable of accommodating the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. In view of this teaching of Clavell '039, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the clamped work piece of Morawski et al. '187 with a rotor

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having integrally formed blades as taught by Clavell '039 to increase the versatility of the clamping device through the ability to accommodate clamping work pieces with a plurality of blade-like structures.

12. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garrison et al. '657 in view of Clavell '039. Garrison et al. '657 lacks the body being a rotor with integrally formed moving blades capable of receiving the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. Clavell '039 shows in Figures 1 and 2 a rotor (1) with integrally formed moving blades (2) capable of accommodating the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. In view of this teaching of Clavell '039, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the clamped work piece of Garrison et al. '657 with a rotor having integrally formed blades as taught by Clavell '039 to increase the versatility of the clamping device through the ability to accommodate clamping work pieces with a plurality of blade-like structures.

13. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kempton et al. '379 in view of Clavell '039. Kempton et al. '379 lacks the body being a rotor with integrally formed moving blades capable of receiving the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. Clavell '039 shows in Figures 1 and 2 a rotor (1) with integrally formed moving blades (2) capable of accommodating the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. In view of this teaching of Clavell '039, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the clamped work piece of Kempton et al. '379 with a rotor having integrally formed blades as taught by Clavell '039 to increase the versatility of the clamping device through the ability to accommodate clamping work pieces with a plurality of blade-like structures.

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Conclusion

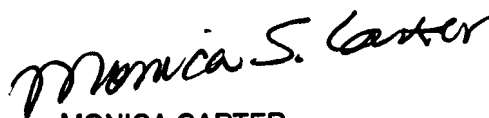
14. Any inquiry concerning the content of this communication from the examiner should be directed to Michael W. Talbot, whose telephone number is 571-272-4481. The examiner's office hours are typically 8:30am until 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Mrs. Monica S. Carter, may be reached at 571-272-4475.

In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, group 3720 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office Actions directly into the Group at FAX number 571-273-8300. This practice may be used for filling papers not requiring a fee. It may also be used for filing papers, which require a fee, by applicants who authorize charges to a USPTO deposit account. Please identify Examiner Michael W. Talbot of Art Unit 3722 at the top of your cover sheet.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



MWT
Examiner
6 June 2007



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